

§ 97.144

§ 97.144 Additional marking or labeling.

Additional clarifying information that is not false or misleading may be used by the owner, in addition to the above markings or labeling.

ATTORNEYS AND AGENTS

§ 97.150 Right to be represented.

An applicant may actively advance an application or may be represented by an attorney or agent authorized in writing.

§ 97.151 Authorization.

Only attorneys or agents specified by the applicant shall be allowed to inspect papers or take action of any kind, on behalf of the applicant, in any pending application or proceedings.

§ 97.152 Revocation of authorization; withdrawal.

An authorization of an attorney or agent may be revoked by an applicant at any time, and an attorney or agent may withdraw, upon application to the Commissioner. When the authorization is so revoked, or the attorney or agent has so withdrawn, the Office shall inform the interested parties and shall thereafter communicate directly with the applicant, or with such other attorney or agent as the applicant may appoint. An assignment will not of itself operate as a revocation of authorization previously given, but the assignee of the entire interest may revoke previous authorizations and be represented by an attorney or agent of his or her own selection.

§ 97.153 Persons recognized.

Unless specifically authorized as provided in § 97.151, no person shall be permitted to file or advance applications before the Office on behalf of another person.

§ 97.154 Government employees.

Officers and employees of the United States who are disqualified by statute (18 U.S.C. 203 and 205) from practicing as attorneys or agents in proceedings or other matters before government departments or agencies, shall not be eligible to represent applicants, except officers and employees whose official du-

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ties require the preparation and prosecution of applications for certificates of variety protection.

§ 97.155 Signatures.

Every document filed by an attorney or agent representing an applicant or party to a proceeding in the Office shall bear the signature of such attorney or agent, except documents which are required to be signed by the applicant or party.

§ 97.156 Addresses.

Attorneys and agents practicing before the Plant Variety Protection Office shall notify the Office in writing of any change of address. The Office shall address letters to any person at the last address received.

§ 97.157 Professional conduct.

Attorneys and agents appearing before the Office shall conform to the standards of ethical and professional conduct, generally applicable to attorneys appearing before the courts of the United States.

§ 97.158 Advertising.

(a) The use of advertising, circulars, letters, cards, and similar material to solicit plant variety protection business, directly or indirectly, is forbidden as unprofessional conduct, and any person engaging in such solicitation, or associated with or employed by others who so solicit, shall be refused recognition to practice before the Office or may be suspended, excluded, or disbarred from further practice before the Office.

(b) The use of simple professional letterheads, calling cards, or office signs, simple announcements necessitated by opening an office, change of association, or change of address, distributed to clients and friends and insertion of listings in common form (not display) in a classified telephone or city directory, and listings and professional cards with biographical data in standard professional directories, shall not be considered a violation of this section.